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AUTHOR	Rodriguez, Silvio
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ABSTRACT

This document addresses the CLAST results for Miami-Dade Community College (M-DCC) in June 2002. The results can be useful in developing strategies to enhance the CLAST pass rates of M-DCC students. Specifically, the document addresses the following three areas: first time pass rate increases in essay, reading, and mathematics, education majors CLAST first time pass rates exceed college wide first time pass rates, performance of first time examinees by skill area. Some of the key findings of the report are as follows: (1) first time pass rates from the June 2002 administration were higher in the essay, reading, and mathematics subtest compared with June 2001 results; (2) although M-DCC achieved increases in some of the pass rates, they remain low; (3) first time pass rates from the June 2002 administration were higher in all of the subtests for education majors compared with college-wide results; and (4) 2,373 students earned a CLAST alternative in mathematics, which is an 8% increase as compared to June 2001. The document contains three recommendations about how CLAST results can be improved in the future. Contains five tables, which present information such as results for first time and retake examinees and other Florida public institutions. (MZ)

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Miami-Dade Community College
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INFORMATION CAPSULE: CLAST RESULTS — JUNE 2002

CLAST First-Time Pass Rates Increase in Essay, Reading, and Mathematics

First-time pass rates from the June 2002 administration were higher in the Essay, Reading, and Mathematics subtests compared with June 2001 results. Essay results reflected an increase of 2 percentage points, Reading reflected an increase of 4 percentage points, and Mathematics reflected a one percentage point increase. Pass rates also increased for students retaking the Essay subtest (52% passed, a one percentage point increase compared to 2001). The pass rate for the few students (141) taking the entire test remained unchanged at 21%.

College-Wide CLAST Pass Rates

	First-Time		Retake	
	June 2001	June 2002	June 2001	June 2002
Essay	**69%** *(N=226)*	**71%** *(N=316)*	**51%** *(N=63)*	**52%** *(N=92)*
English Lang. Skills	**56%** *(N=254)*	**47%** *(N=361)*	**51%** *(N=154)*	**36%** *(N=245)*
Reading	**51%** *(N=245)*	**55%** *(N=358)*	**61%** *(N=140)*	**60%** *(N=204)*
Mathematics	**38%** *(N=335)*	**39%** *(N=438)*	**41%** *(N=271)*	**38%** *(N=394)*
Total Test	**21%** *(N=112)*	**21%** *(N=141)*		

Recommendations

1. Reading and English disciplines should follow the Mathematics discipline's lead in developing strategies and pilot projects to enhance students' success in their courses.
2. The CASSC Research and Testing subcommittee charged with developing a website to support CLAST/CPT test preparation should move forward and establish the site by the end of Spring Term.
3. The Academic Deans should investigate ways to encourage students to complete their required English and mathematics courses earlier in their enrollment at M-DCC.

Although M-DCC achieved increases in some of the pass rates, they still remain low. This is not surprising since most of the students currently taking the CLAST are the least academically prepared for the exam as they have probably earned C grades in all of the courses applicable to an alternative.

For this administration, students were most successful in the first-time Essay and retake Reading subtests and least successful in first-time Mathematics and retake English Language Skills subtests. Campus results for the June 2002 administration are given in Table 1 attached.

Education Majors CLAST First-time Pass Rates Exceed College-wide First-time Pass Rates

First-time pass rates from the June 2002 administration were higher in all of the subtests for education majors compared with college-wide results. Essay and English Language Skills results were 6 percentage points higher, Reading was 8 percentage points higher, and Mathematics was one percentage point higher. The pass rate for the few education majors (78) taking the entire test was also higher than the college-wide rate. The total test pass rate for the education majors (28%) was 7 percentage points higher than the college-wide rate (21%). In contrast, the retake pass rate for education majors was lower in all of the subtests for education majors compared with college-wide results.

For this administration, education majors were most successful in the first-time Essay and retake Reading subtests and least successful in first-time Mathematics and retake English Language Skills subtests.

College-Wide CLAST Pass Rates Education Majors

	First-Time	Retake
	June 2002	June 2002
Essay	**77%** *(145)*	**50%** *(24)*
English Lang. Skills	**53%** *(142)*	**31%** *(58)*
Reading	**63%** *(138)*	**55%** *(49)*
Mathematics	**40%** *(114)*	**32%** *(59)*
Total Test	**28%** *(78)*	

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Performance of First-Time Examinees by Skill Area Shows Little Improvement

Results from the June 2002 paper and pencil administration reflected a few increases and decreases. In English Language Skills, there was a 9 percentage point decrease in Word Choice, a 5 percentage point decrease in Sentence Structure, and a 5 percentage point increase in Grammar.

In Reading, there was a decrease of 2 percentage points in Literal Comprehension and a 1 percentage point increase in Critical Comprehension.

In Mathematics, there was a large 19 percentage point increase in Arithmetic, and decreases which ranged from 3 percentage points in Algebra and Logic to 14 percentage points in Statistics and Probability. The pass rate in Geometry did not change.

CLAST Skill Areas	# Items	% Correct June 2001	% Correct June 2002
English Language Skills:			
Word Choice	4	80%	71%
Sentence Structure	12	72%	67%
Grammar	19	74%	79%
Reading:			
Literal Comprehension	9	73%	71%
Critical Comprehension	27	68%	69%
Mathematics:			
Arithmetic	12	52%	71%
Algebra	16	59%	56%
Geometry	8	64%	64%
Logic	6	66%	63%
Statistics & Probability	8	68%	54%

Students in the June 2002 administration were most successful in the skill areas of Grammar (79% passing), Literal Comprehension (71% passing) and Arithmetic (71% passing) within each of the broad skill categories. In all of the skill areas, the performance of M-DCC students was generally lower than the Statewide rates for public universities and community colleges (see Table 2 attached).

These results can be useful in developing strategies to enhance the CLAST pass rates of M-DCC students. Students' skills improvement should focus on those areas which include a high number of questions on the subtest (s). This would likely enhance their performance and therefore increase the likelihood that they will pass the subtest(s).

CLAST Mathematics Alternatives Increase by 8%

During the June 2002 administration period, **2,373 students earned a CLAST alternative in Mathematics (an 8% increase compared to June 2001)** and 549 students were exempt from the entire CLAST. In addition, 5,762 students earned a CLAST alternative during this administration. As in the past, more alternatives were granted in the communications subtests of Essay (3,837), English Language Skills (3,845), and Reading (3,820) than in the Mathematics subtest (2,373), but the gap between the communications and mathematics subtests has narrowed.

CLAST Alternatives Granted	March 1 through June 30 2001	March 1 through June 30 2002
Essay	4,008	3,837
English Lang. Skills	4,090	3,845
Reading	4,089	3,820
Mathematics	2,204	2,373
Total Test	615	549
Total Students	5,814	5,762

CLAST Alternatives Granted Between March 1, 2002 - June 30, 2002 By Campus and College-Wide						
Campus	Essay	English Language Skills	Reading	Math	Total Test	Unduplicated Number of Students
North	831	836	823	490	99	1,250
Kendall	1,783	1,780	1,784	1,155	291	2,697
Wolfson	734	735	733	444	94	1,100
Medical Center	125	128	128	80	28	182
Homestead	174	174	170	70	17	228
InterAmerican	190	192	182	134	20	305
College-Wide	3,837	3,845	3,820	2,373	549	5,762

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This is partially explained by the continued efforts of the math discipline to improve student success in mathematics courses. Their efforts have contributed to the following successes, which were recently reported by Cathy Morris in an October 2002 Information Capsule (IC-2002-14C): MAC1105 had 54.1% A,B,C grades in Fall 2001 compared to 46.8% in Fall 2000; MAC1114 had 48.3% A,B,C grades in Fall 2001 compared to 41.9% in Fall 2000; and MAC2311 dropped off the "High Risk Courses List" with 62.4% A,B,C grades in Fall Term 2001. Finally, most students no longer take the CLAST - they earn an alternative. Education majors are the exception, as they need to take and pass the CLAST for their program.

Notes on Method:

Test results of the June 2002 CLAST administration are reported for M-DCC students who took the CLAST at M-DCC and at other institutions. Results also include Computer Adaptive Test – (CAT-CLAST) administrations for M-DCC students who took the CLAST at M-DCC and at other institutions during the period of March 1, 2002 – June 30, 2002. Results are reported for first-time examinees, retake examinees, and students earning alternatives to the CLAST requirement during the above period. Campus results are presented using the students' home campus designation. Results for Education Majors are provided using the students' program code designation.

Results for first-time and retake examinees at M-DCC and other Florida public institutions are presented in Tables 3 and 4 respectively. Comparisons with other institutions should not be made due to different criteria in effect for allowing students to take and retake the CLAST, as well as awarding alternatives to the CLAST. Also, the number of M-DCC students taking the test and corresponding pass rates depicted in the State tables may differ from M-DCC results due to reporting procedures.

Silvio Rodriguez:ab

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Table 1

Pass Rates for June 2002 CLAST by Campus and College-Wide

First-Time Examinees*

			Campus					
	College Wide	Education Majors**	North	Kendall	Wolfson	Medical Center	Homestead	Inter-American
Essay	71% (N=316)	77% (N=145)	76% (N=50)	72% (N=166)	65% (N=60)	0% (N=1)	75% (N=16)	65% (N=23)
English Language Skills	47% (N=361)	53% (N=142)	57% (N=61)	47% (N=174)	44% (N=73)	0% (N=2)	57% (N=14)	42% (N=36)
Reading	55% (N=358)	63% (N=138)	60% (N=55)	57% (N=173)	44% (N=70)	67% (N=3)	88% (N=16)	46% (N=41)
Mathematics	39% (N=438)	40% (N=114)	41% (N=109)	35% (N=185)	49% (N=84)	33% (N=9)	38% (N=16)	32% (N=34)
Pass-All-Four	21% (N=141)	28% (N=78)	58% (N=12)	18% (N=79)	16% (N=25)	0% (N=1)	17% (N=12)	17% (N=12)

Retake Examinees

			Campus					
	College Wide	Education Majors	North	Kendall	Wolfson	Medical Center	Homestead	Inter-American
Essay	52% (N=92)	50% (N=24)	59% (N=17)	56% (N=45)	42% (N=19)	0% (N=0)	100% (N=1)	40% (N=10)
English Language Skills	36% (N=245)	31% (N=58)	27% (N=59)	45% (N=92)	35% (N=49)	0% (N=0)	27% (N=11)	35% (N=34)
Reading	60% (N=204)	55% (N=49)	52% (N=46)	71% (N=63)	63% (N=54)	100% (N=1)	75% (N=8)	41% (N=32)
Mathematics	38% (N=394)	32% (N=59)	37% (N=95)	40% (N=163)	41% (N=79)	50% (N=4)	30% (N=23)	30% (N=30)

* "N" and pass rate may differ from State data due to reporting procedures. Includes M-DCC students tested at other institutions, and/or CAT-CLAST results between March 1, 2002 - June 30, 2002.

**Education Majors are included if they were enrolled during the 2001-2 Spring Term and were tested in the date range mentioned above.

Table 2
College-Level Academic Skills Test
Public First Time

Date of Test: June 1, 2002
Institution Name: Miami-Dade Community College

Broad Skill Area	Number of Subtest Items	% Correct in Institution	% Correct in State	Range in Public Institutions	% Correct in Universities	% Correct in Community Colleges
Mathematics						
Arithmetic	12	71	75	64 - 90	74	76
Algebra	16	56	59	45 - 76	58	60
Geometry	8	64	68	56 - 93	68	68
Logic	6	63	66	53 - 75	68	65
Statistics & Probability	8	54	59	48 - 83	59	59
Reading						
Literal Comprehension	9	71	77	70 - 92	79	76
Critical Comprehension	27	69	77	69 - 92	78	75
English Language Skills						
Word Choice	4	71	79	71 - 85	80	78
Sentence Structure	12	67	75	67 - 88	77	73
Grammar	19	79	82	72 - 92	83	81

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Table 3

CLAST RESULTS FOR JUNE 1, 2002

MEAN SCALE SCORES AND PERCENT OF EXAMINEES MEETING 1992 STANDARDS

FIRST-TIME EXAMINEES IN EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION

REGION AND INSTITUTION	ESSAY			ENG LANG SKILLS			READING			MATHEMATICS			ALL SUBTESTS	
	NUMBER TESTED	X PASS	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	X PASS	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	X PASS	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	X PASS	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	X PASS
PANHANDLE REGION	442	89	7.5	400	66	309	401	75	308	493	41	291	300	38
CHIPOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE	23	96	7.5	22	59	309	22	77	310	24	54	296	18	44
FLORIDA A & M UNIVERSITY	81	81	6.7	81	53	294	81	59	294	97	16	276	69	12
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY	116	97	8.5	110	81	323	113	89	321	174	50	298	95	55
GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	35	77	7.0	35	60	307	35	71	306	47	43	292	33	27
NORTH FLORIDA JUNIOR COLLEGE	12	75	6.5	12	67	296	10	70	305	13	38	290	10	50
OKALOOSA WALTON COMMUNITY COL.	36	92	7.3	25	68	308	23	78	305	22	41	294	13	38
PENSACOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE	61	90	7.6	44	73	314	43	72	310	54	65	299	28	64
TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	51	82	6.9	48	58	308	49	71	306	56	43	292	21	29
UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA	27	100	7.4	23	57	306	25	68	307	26	23	278	13	23
CROWN REGION	449	91	7.7	373	68	315	375	79	313	405	49	299	275	50
CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	49	88	7.1	49	61	309	49	73	306	52	29	288	42	21
FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT JAX	108	82	7.1	99	51	303	100	68	304	80	48	293	52	42
LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	18	89	7.3	18	72	312	18	72	312	26	42	291	18	39
SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	70	91	7.3	0			0			1	0	284	0	
ST. JOHNS RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	43	98	8.0	43	60	311	43	72	311	39	38	292	34	26
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA	109	98	8.5	111	86	328	112	93	326	130	65	312	80	84
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA	60	95	8.0	53	70	319	53	81	313	77	44	297	49	47
EAST CENTRAL REGION	525	91	7.5	501	69	311	495	79	312	601	53	299	399	42
BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	60	85	7.2	59	71	309	58	79	311	82	50	298	46	30
DAYTONA BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	59	88	7.3	57	72	309	57	77	314	67	49	297	46	43
INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	49	92	7.5	49	73	314	46	85	319	42	81	314	27	67
LAKE-SUMTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	18	100	8.2	18	83	317	18	78	311	31	65	304	18	44
SEMINOLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	52	88	7.3	52	62	307	53	70	310	63	52	298	42	33
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA	139	95	8.1	121	82	320	119	92	320	148	65	307	113	59
VALENCIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	148	91	7.3	145	57	304	144	69	304	168	40	291	107	26
WEST CENTRAL REGION	826	88	7.5	809	65	310	814	75	311	1,006	49	296	656	42
EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	74	91	7.2	75	60	309	74	72	307	77	42	291	61	33
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY	32	94	7.6	21	67	309	22	73	308	19	42	295	15	47
HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	115	82	7.0	115	58	305	116	66	306	115	50	297	81	32
MANATEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	60	88	7.5	60	72	318	60	85	316	61	64	302	52	44
PASCO-HERNANDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE	38	84	7.2	38	58	307	38	82	311	45	51	299	35	34
POLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE	51	86	7.2	50	72	309	50	58	299	50	42	294	38	37
SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	11	91	6.9	11	45	306	11	73	311	10	20	283	8	13
ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE	139	93	7.5	138	61	310	138	75	310	159	57	299	117	46
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA	306	89	7.8	301	68	314	305	80	315	470	47	295	249	48
SOUTH REGION	885	77	6.8	825	54	302	812	60	300	962	37	289	573	28
BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	100	82	7.0	97	62	305	98	63	304	112	46	294	80	34
FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	225	85	7.0	215	59	305	215	68	304	276	37	288	180	31
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	167	80	7.0	165	59	306	162	60	300	278	36	288	124	26
FLORIDA KEYS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4	75	9.3	4	75	351	4	100	354	5	60	339	4	75
MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	305	71	6.5	264	46	297	251	54	293	211	33	288	129	19
PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	84	77	6.7	82	44	298	82	52	298	80	44	288	56	34
STATE TOTALS	3,127	86	7.3	2,908	63	308	2,897	72	308	3,467	45	294	2,203	39
STATE UNIVERSITIES	1,262	89	7.6	1,199	68	313	1,207	77	311	1,695	44	294	987	44
COMMUNITY COLLEGES	1,865	85	7.1	1,709	59	306	1,690	69	305	1,772	47	294	1,216	35

Table 4

CLAST RESULTS FOR JUNE 1, 2002

MEAN SCALE SCORES AND PERCENT OF EXAMINEES MEETING REQUIRED STANDARDS

RETAKE EXAMINEES IN EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION

REGION AND INSTITUTION	ESSAY			ENG LANG SKILLS			READING			MATHEMATICS		
	NUMBER TESTED	% PASS	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	% PASS	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	% PASS	MEAN	NUMBER TESTED	% PASS	MEAN
PANHANDLE REGION	100	68	6.3	148	39	291	124	57	297	274	30	284
CHIPOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE	2	100	6.0	3	33	296	6	67	307	4	25	287
FLORIDA A & M UNIVERSITY	38	53	5.7	73	32	289	58	53	294	118	24	278
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY	17	71	6.5	22	55	297	16	63	301	83	29	288
GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	3	100	6.7	11	18	284	10	70	298	21	48	291
NORTH FLORIDA JUNIOR COLLEGE	1	100	7.0	7	14	284	7	29	291	12	33	288
OKALOOSA WALTON COMMUNITY COL.	10	100	7.3	4	75	314	4	75	305	5	60	299
PENSACOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE	12	75	6.5	5	40	287	6	50	293	10	30	284
TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	7	71	6.7	11	100	312	10	90	313	10	50	298
UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA	10	60	6.5	12	17	283	7	29	286	11	27	279
CROWN REGION	64	56	5.7	81	41	295	62	65	301	173	31	286
CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	8	38	5.0	2	0	289	3	0	282	2	0	289
FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT JAX	8	88	6.6	25	35	293	18	67	301	34	29	288
LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	7	86	6.0	9	22	291	8	75	309	21	33	286
SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	10	60	5.8	0			0			1	0	293
ST. JOHNS RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	5	80	7.0	15	53	297	11	55	307	24	29	283
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA	15	27	4.9	24	50	295	18	67	295	74	31	285
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA	11	55	6.0	8	38	299	4	100	315	17	35	286
EAST CENTRAL REGION	113	57	5.7	155	41	293	118	64	301	244	31	286
BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	10	80	6.3	12	42	291	12	75	307	30	53	289
DAYTONA BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	17	53	5.6	33	39	288	27	70	299	39	21	282
INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	6	50	5.8	9	67	310	6	50	304	6	33	291
LAKE SUMTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	0			1	100	299	0			7	43	286
SEMINOLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	11	55	5.8	27	26	287	14	50	295	37	19	286
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA	28	46	5.5	27	52	297	21	71	305	69	32	285
VALENCIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	41	61	5.8	46	37	294	38	58	299	56	30	286
WEST CENTRAL REGION	121	57	5.4	201	37	290	141	58	296	305	29	284
EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	11	36	5.0	15	40	285	9	67	301	29	24	282
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY	5	100	6.2	0			0			0		
HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	22	50	5.1	47	36	291	42	57	297	80	33	285
MANATEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4	25	4.8	20	50	296	10	70	308	22	41	290
PASCO-HERNANDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2	0	4.0	12	25	288	7	57	292	16	38	286
POLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE	8	63	5.4	20	35	290	11	45	292	53	21	280
SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4	50	6.0	9	44	298	8	88	303	17	29	286
ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE	21	62	5.5	58	29	287	39	54	293	82	23	285
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA	44	64	5.7	20	50	296	15	53	294	26	35	285
SOUTH REGION	334	48	5.4	439	39	292	353	52	293	820	25	282
BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	24	58	5.8	36	53	297	26	58	299	40	28	285
FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	120	44	5.4	160	39	292	125	45	289	329	19	279
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	58	48	5.4	92	48	297	65	60	298	275	29	283
FLORIDA KEYS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	0			1	0	280	0			9	11	274
MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	99	53	5.6	101	33	289	93	58	296	121	33	287
PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	33	39	4.8	49	24	285	44	45	288	44	22	281
STATE TOTALS	732	54	5.6	1,024	39	292	798	57	296	1,816	27	283
STATE UNIVERSITIES	346	51	5.5	438	42	293	329	54	294	1,002	25	282
COMMUNITY COLLEGES	386	58	5.7	586	37	291	469	59	297	814	30	285

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